

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method for controlling a computerized device by a multi-contact touch screen ~~to acquire multiple tactile information~~, the method comprising:

displaying a graphical object on the multi-contact touch screen at an object position;

associating a processing rule to the graphical object;

detecting a plurality of touch points on the multi-contact touch screen and ~~acquiring~~
~~defining a touch position for each of a plurality of positional information corresponding to the~~
plurality of touch points;

applying the processing rule of the graphical object as a function of a relative position
of ~~between the positional information towards touch position and~~ the object position; and

modifying at least one of the graphical object or the object position based on a result
of said ~~processing~~applying.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 13, wherein said step of detecting further comprises:

sequentially scanning rows and columns of the multi-contact touch screen.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 13, wherein the calculating step further includes:

generating a plurality of contact zones from the plurality of touch points;

first calculating a bounding zone for each the plurality of contact zones; and

second calculating a plurality of cursor positions for each of the plurality of contact zones, respectively.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said step of second calculating further calculates the plurality of cursor positions based on a barycenter of a respective bounding zone.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 13, further comprising:

displaying a plurality of graphical objects on the screen, each of the plurality of objects associated to a separate processing rule.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 13, wherein said step of detecting further comprises:

measuring an electrical characteristic of row-column intersections by sequentially scanning rows and columns of the multi-contact touch screen.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said electrical characteristic is a voltage.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A device to control a computerized apparatus comprising:

memory to store a plurality of graphical objects and a plurality of processing rules that are associated to the plurality of graphical objects, respectively;

a multi-contact touch screen to detect a plurality of touch points on the multi-contact touch screen and ~~to acquire a plurality of positional information~~ defining a touch position for each of ~~corresponding to~~ the plurality of touch points;

a graphic display unit to display a graphical object from said plurality of graphical objects at an object position; and

a processor configured to ~~process~~ apply a processing rule of the plurality of processing rules associated to the graphical object as a function of a relative position of ~~the positional information towards~~ between the touch position and the object position, and configured to modify at least one of the graphical object or the object position based on a result of said processing said processing rule.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The device according to Claim 20, wherein the multi-contact touch screen comprises:

a transparent matrix sensor.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) : The device according to Claim 21, wherein the transparent matrix sensor includes an array of a plurality of conductive rows and columns.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) : The device according to Claim 22, wherein the conductive rows and columns are made of Indium Tin Oxyde (ITO).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The device according to Claim 22, wherein the conductive rows are insulated from the conductive columns by an insulation layer.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The device according to Claim 20, further comprising:

a controller configured to sequentially scan rows and columns of the matrix sensor to measure an electrical characteristic of row-column intersections to detect the plurality of touch points.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) : The device according to Claim 25, wherein the electrical characteristic of row-column intersections is a voltage.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The device according to Claim 20, wherein the processor is further configured to generate a plurality of contact zones from the plurality of positional information, configured to calculate a bounding zone for each of the plurality of contact zones, and configured to calculate cursor positions for each of the plurality of contact zones, respectively.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The device according to Claim 27, wherein said processor is further configured to calculate the cursor positions based on a barycenter of a respective bounding zone.

Claim 29 (New): A touch panel, comprising:

a transparent sensor having a plurality of sensing zones, the zones arranged in a matrix;

a scanning unit configured to detect a tactile activation of at least two of said plurality of sensing zones; and

a processing unit configured to determine whether the at least two zones are adjacent to each other in the matrix, and to calculate a location of the tactile activation on the touch panel associated with the at least two adjacent zones.

Claim 30 (New): A touch panel, comprising:

a transparent sensor having a plurality of sensing zones, the zones arranged in a matrix;

a scanning unit configured to detect simultaneous tactile activation on the touch panel to sense at least two clusters of zones of said plurality of sensing zones; and

a processing unit configured to calculate a location for each of the at least two clusters of zones, respectively, each calculated location representing a position of one of the simultaneous tactile activation on the touch panel that forms one of the at least two clusters.

Claim 31 (New): The touch panel according to Claim 30, wherein the processing unit is further configured to calculate a bounding zone around each of said at least two clusters, each cluster surrounded by a bounding zone, and configured to calculate said location of one of the simultaneous tactile activation based on the bounding zone.